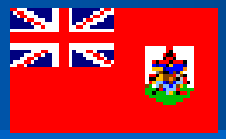
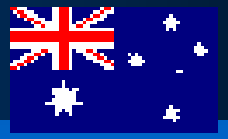
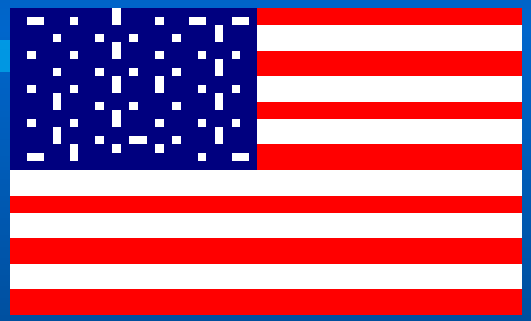
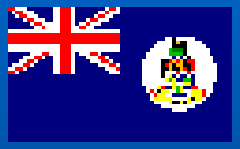
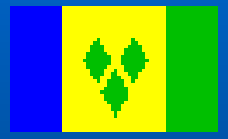
Research Block (Tools for All)

LCDR Janet Stevens
United States Coast Guard

World Geography, Census, Geopolitical Information



Common Research Block Info

- **Geography, Geopolitical Info**
- **Dictionary**
- **Text to Speech**
- **Weather Service**
- **Language Conversion**
- **Thesaurus**
- **People Search / Directory**
- **Acronym Finder**
- **News Service**
- **Fax Service**
- **Maps**

World Geography, Census, Geopolitical Information

- **The World Gazetteer**
  - **Most recent population figures for all countries based on census data**
  - **Geography Lat. and Long. Position**
  - **Geographic imagery and data**
  - **Data on largest cities of the world**
  - **Images of national flags**
  - **US Geological Survey for National information of the US and its territories**

World Geography, Census, Geopolitical Information

- **Availability**
  - **http://www.world-gazetteer.com/**
  - **http://www.calle.com/world/**
  - **http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis/web_query.gnis_web_query_form**

Dictionaries

Dictionaries

- **Dictionary.com and Merriam-Webster**
  - **Dictionary in multiple languages**
  - **Language translation**
  - **Writing resources**
  - **Roget's Thesaurus**
  - **Wireless access:**
    - **WAP-enabled mobile phone**
    - **Definitions from the *WordNet* dictionary**
    - **A translator, which translates preset phrases from English to numerous other languages**

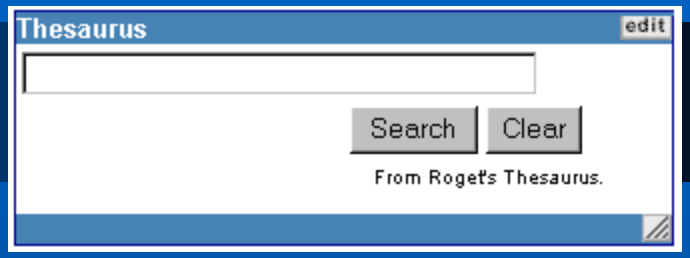
Dictionaries

- **Availability**
  - **http://www.dictionary.com/**
  - **http://www.m-w.com/**
    - **(Merriam-Webster Online)**

More Dictionary…

Product	Source Info	Cost	Glossy Info
Word Web	http://www.wordweb.co.uk/	$18	
Merriam Webster	http://merriamwebster.com/	free	
Babylon Pro	http://www.babylon.com/	$17.95 year lease	http://www.babylon.com/products.html

Thesaurus…



Product	Source Info	App/Plugin	Cost	Glossy Info
Merriam-Webster	http://www.m-w.com/tools/search/searchboxes.htm	Plug-in	Free	HTML lookup
Rogets	http://www.eipcentral.com/default.asp?Mode=Home	Plug-in	Free	

Fax Service...

Product	Source Info	Cost	Glossy Info
eFax	http://www.efax.com/toolkit/	$9.95/mo + cost of call	Send from web browser
OwnMail	http://www.ownmail.co.in/benbus.php		

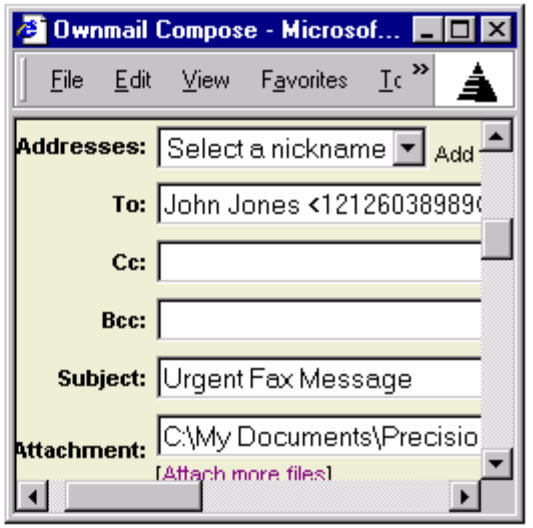
Fax…

eFax.com
Company Info | News | Partners | Contact Us | Advertise | Site Map
Fax solutions for consumers and business since 1988.
Premiere Partners | Web Toolkit Program | Affiliate Program
Premiere Partners
Home
Sign Up
My Account
Products
Download
Free Trial
Overview
Documentation
Frequently Asked Questions
Overview
Would you like to fax order confirmations, invoices, itineraries, or forms directly from your web site? Would you like it to be as easy as sending email, requiring no new servers, hardware, or staff? Would you like to be up and running within minutes, not months?
The Web Toolkit is the answer.

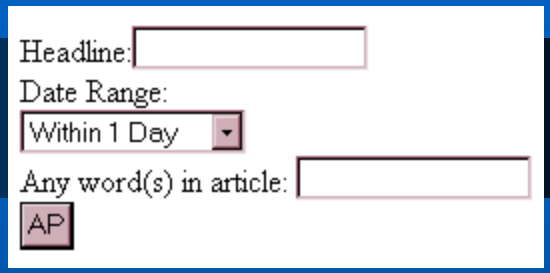
Fax…

Enhanced Fax

Cut fax costs by 40-80%

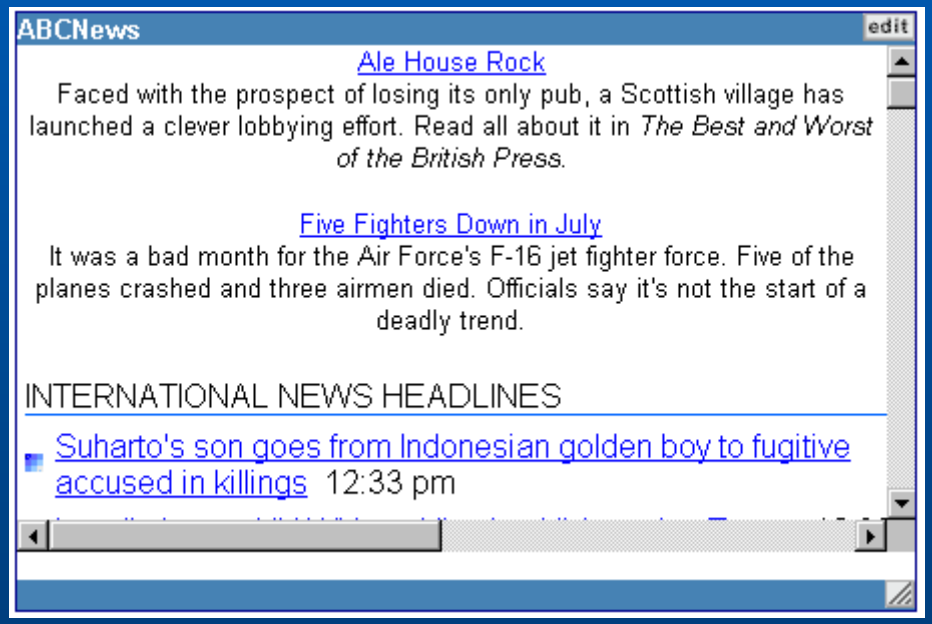


News Service…



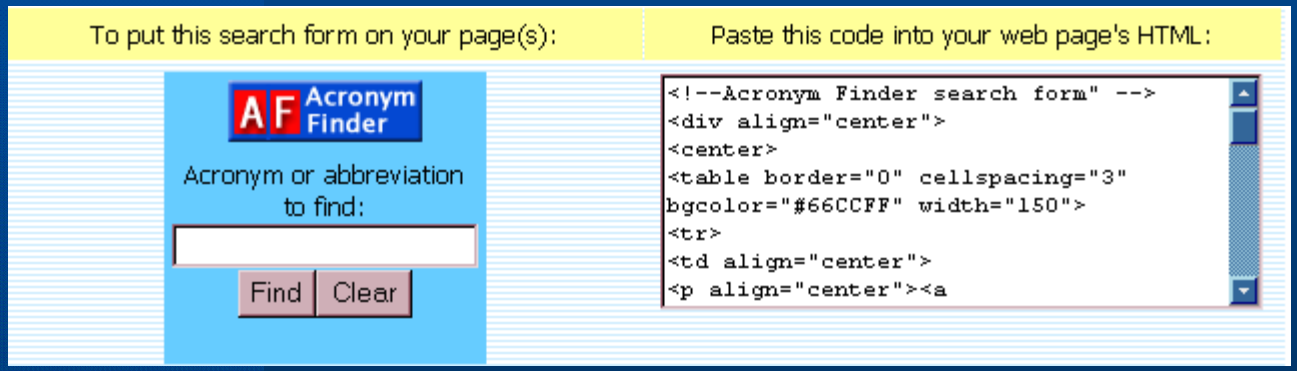
Product	Source Info	Cost	Glossy Info
DrudgeReport	www.drudgereport.com	N/A	He links and searches other sites; we can grab his code, it's standard HTML
ABCNews	http://www.eipcentral.com/default.asp?Mode=Home	N/A	

News...


ABCNews
edit
Ale House Rock
Faced with the prospect of losing its only pub, a Scottish village has launched a clever lobbying effort. Read all about it in *The Best and Worst of the British Press*.
Five Fighters Down in July
It was a bad month for the Air Force's F-16 jet fighter force. Five of the planes crashed and three airmen died. Officials say it's not the start of a deadly trend.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS HEADLINES
Suharto's son goes from Indonesian golden boy to fugitive accused in killings 12:33 pm

Acronym Finder…

Product	Source Info	App/Plugin	Cost	Glossy Info
AcronymFinder	http://www.acronymfinder.com/	Plugin	Free	HTML lookup



Address
http://www.acronymfinder.co
Go
AF Acronym Finder
The web's most comprehensive database of acronyms, abbreviations, and initialisms.
233,000+ definitions!
Option
exact acronym
Search for (Example: ASAP)
GIS
Find
Help
About
Fun Stuff
Submit new definition
Tell a Friend
Your search for GIS returned 20 hits (Most Common definition(s) listed first)
Acronym
Definition
@Amazon.com
GIS
Geographic Information System
GO!
GIS
Gas-Insulated Switchgear
GO!
GIS
Geeky Internal Stuff (databases)
GO!
GIS
General Information Services
GO!
GIS
General Information Session
GO!
GIS
Generalized Iterative Scaling
GO!
GIS
Geographic Imaging Solutions
GO!
GIS
Geographical Imaging Software
GO!
GIS
Geographical Information System
GO!
GIS
Geographical Intelligent Survey
GO!

Text to Speech

Text to Speech

- **AT&T Labs Natural Voices**
  - **Fact sheet**
    - **http://www.naturalvoices.att.com/news/fact_sheet.html**
      - **From the first synthesized speech system in 1939 to today, AT&T Labs has long been the world's speech technology pioneer, innovating the highest quality and most robust speech systems available anywhere. AT&T Labs has the experience, the people, the business structure and the patents to make it the industry's premiere provider of speech technologies.**

Text to Speech

- **Application Examples**
  - **Call centers**
  - **content easily accessible by the visually-impaired**
  - **Interactive Voice Response (IVR) systems**
  - **Educational programs for new languages**
  - **Premises-based communication products**

Text to Speech

- **Specifications**
  - **http://www.naturalvoices.att.com**

The Engine
We offer three versions of our AT&T Labs Natural Voices Text-to-Speech Engine:
• Server Edition
For corporate IT managers, VARs, ISPs, ASPs, and integrators
• Server-Lite Edition
For application developers and small businesses
• Desktop Edition
For application developers
LEARN MORE
HEAR A DEMO

The Languages & Voices
Our line of languages & customized voice products includes:
• U.S. English
• Latin American Spanish
• German
• AT&T Labs Natural Voices fonts (additional voices to supplement your AT&T Labs Natural Voices TTS engine)
• AT&T Labs Natural Voices icons (exclusive custom-developed voices)
LEARN MORE
HEAR A DEMO

Text to Speech

- **Availability**
  - **How to buy**
    - **http://www.naturalvoices.att.com/buy/**

More Text to Speech…

Product	Source Info	Ratings	Cost	Glossy Info
Read Please	http://readplease.com/		Free	http://readplease.com/faq.phtml
Ultimate Reading Machine	http://www.ultimatereadingmachine.com/		$19.99	
ATTS	http://www.text-to-speech.net/		$29.95	http://www.text-to-speech.net/faq.html

Advanced Text To Speech
File Edit Search Playback Tools Help
Mary
readme sample2 license sample1
'Text to Speech' technology to synthesize natural sounding speech from ordinary text. Just copy text to the clipboard or import from
Speed: 54% [294] -- Left/Right arrow key to Fine-tune
0%

Welcome to...
ReadPlease 2002
Welcome to...
ReadPlease Plus 2002
ReadPlease will read any text you see on your screen.
This can be from your Browser, Email, Word processor, Spreadsheet - just about any text you have.
Links:
http://cnn.com
mailto:help@cnn.com

Weather

2 YEARS
THE WEATHER CHANNEL
weather.com
live by it

intellicast.com
Weather for Active Lives

National Weather Service

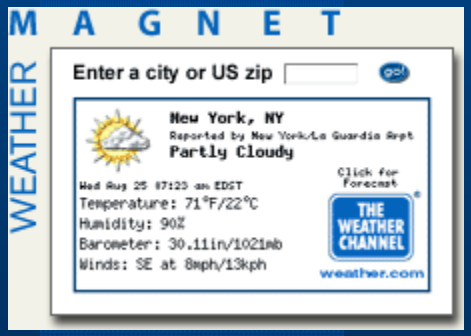
Weather

- **Weather.com, Intellicast.com, Weather.gov**
  - **Updated weather reports**
  - **Current radar imagery**
  - **Current satellite imagery**
  - **Short and long range forecasts**
  - **Tropical storm tracking and updates**

Weather

- **Availability**
  - **http://www.weather.com/index.html**
  - **http://intellicast.com/**
  - **http://weather.gov/**

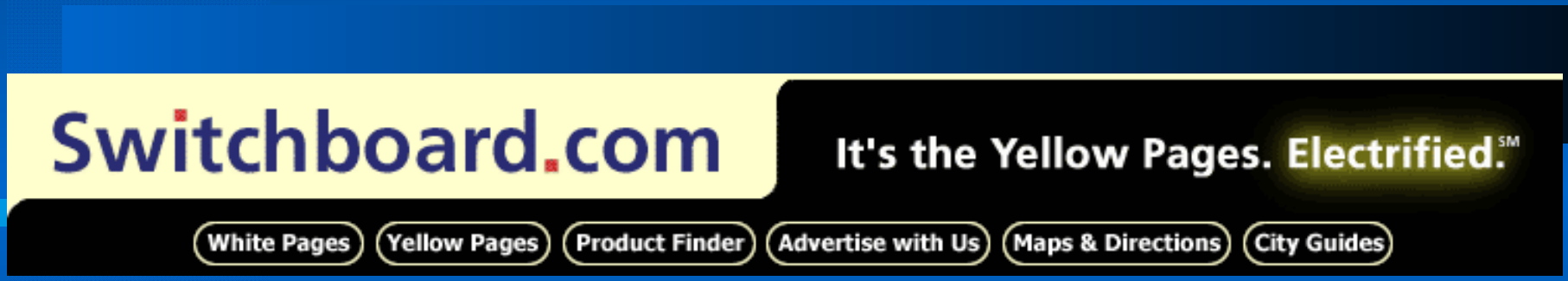
More Weather Service…



More Weather Service…

Product	Source Info	Cost	Glossy Info
Weather Bug	http://ww3.weatherbug.com/aws/Default.asp?RND=15559&	Free/ $19.95	http://ww3.weatherbug.com/aws/Default.asp?RND=15559&
Wet Sock	http://www.robomagic.com/wetsock.htm	$12.00	http://www.robomagic.com/wetsock.htm
Weather 1	http://www.weather1.com/index.asp	$18.00	http://www.weather1.com/features.html

People Searches



People Searches

- **Switchboard.com**
  - **White pages**
  - **Yellow pages**
  - **Maps on Us**
    - **Maps**
    - **Driving directions**
    - **Road trip planner**
  - **City guide**
  - **Product finder**

People Searches

- **Whitepages.com**
  - **White pages**
    - **Search services**
      - **Person, businesses, area code, zip code, email address, web site**
      - **Advanced searches**
    - **International directories**
    - **Toll free numbers**
  - **Map and driving directions**

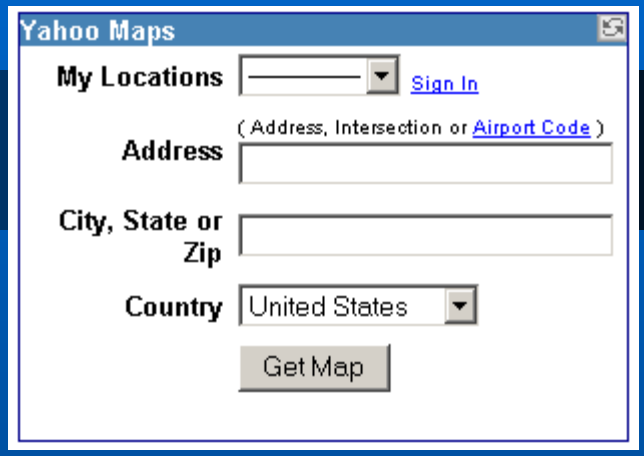
People Searches

- **Availability**
  - **Switchboard.com**
    - **http://www.switchboard.com/**
  - **Whitepages.com**
    - **http://www.whitepages.com/**

More People Search…

Product	Source Info	Cost	Glossy Info
People Search Engine	http://www.people-search-engines.com/	Online/free	http://www.people-search-engines.com/

More Maps…



Product	Source Info	Cost	Plug-in/App	Glossy Info
MapQuest	http://mapquest.com/solutions/product.adp?page=linkfree	Free	Plug-in	

Maps…

Introduction to LinkFree URLs: LinkFree works by using a HREF statement to software on the MapQuest Web site. Information about the map is passed to the software through the URL, by appending any number of parameters and their values separated by the ampersand character (&).

Linking Restriction: The MapQuest page you are linking to may not be displayed in a frame set.

General URL Parameters: The following parameters may be included in the URL.

Example: http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?city=denver&state=CO&address=1565+california+st&zip=80202&country=us&zoom=5

Parameter	Description	Examples	Req'd
address	The address for the center point of the map.	1565+california+st	No
city	The city for the center point of the map.	Denver	Yes
state	The state for the center point of the map.	CO	Yes
zip	The zip code for the center point of the map.	80202	No
country	The country for the center point of the map.	US	No
zoom	Map zoom level, where 1=national and 10=street level	1 through 10	No

Note 1: The following address field combinations can be used:

- Address, city, state and ZIP code
- Address, city and state
- Address and city
- City and state

If ZIP code doesn't match the other information, it is ignored.

Language Conversion

Language Conversion

- **SDL International Online Translation Services**
  - **PremiumPlus Translation**
    - **Document matched with a professional translator with industry specific expertise.**
  - **PersonalPlus Translation**
    - **Bilingual translator will edit AutomaticPlus Translation for accuracy and ease of understanding.**

Language Conversion

- **SDL International Online Translation Services**
  - **AutomaticPlus Translation**
    - **Instant translations of unlimited length documents. Using topic dictionaries for law, business and more. Format preservation.**
  - **FreeTranslation.com**
    - **Automatic computer-generated translation of text and web pages. Instantaneous.**

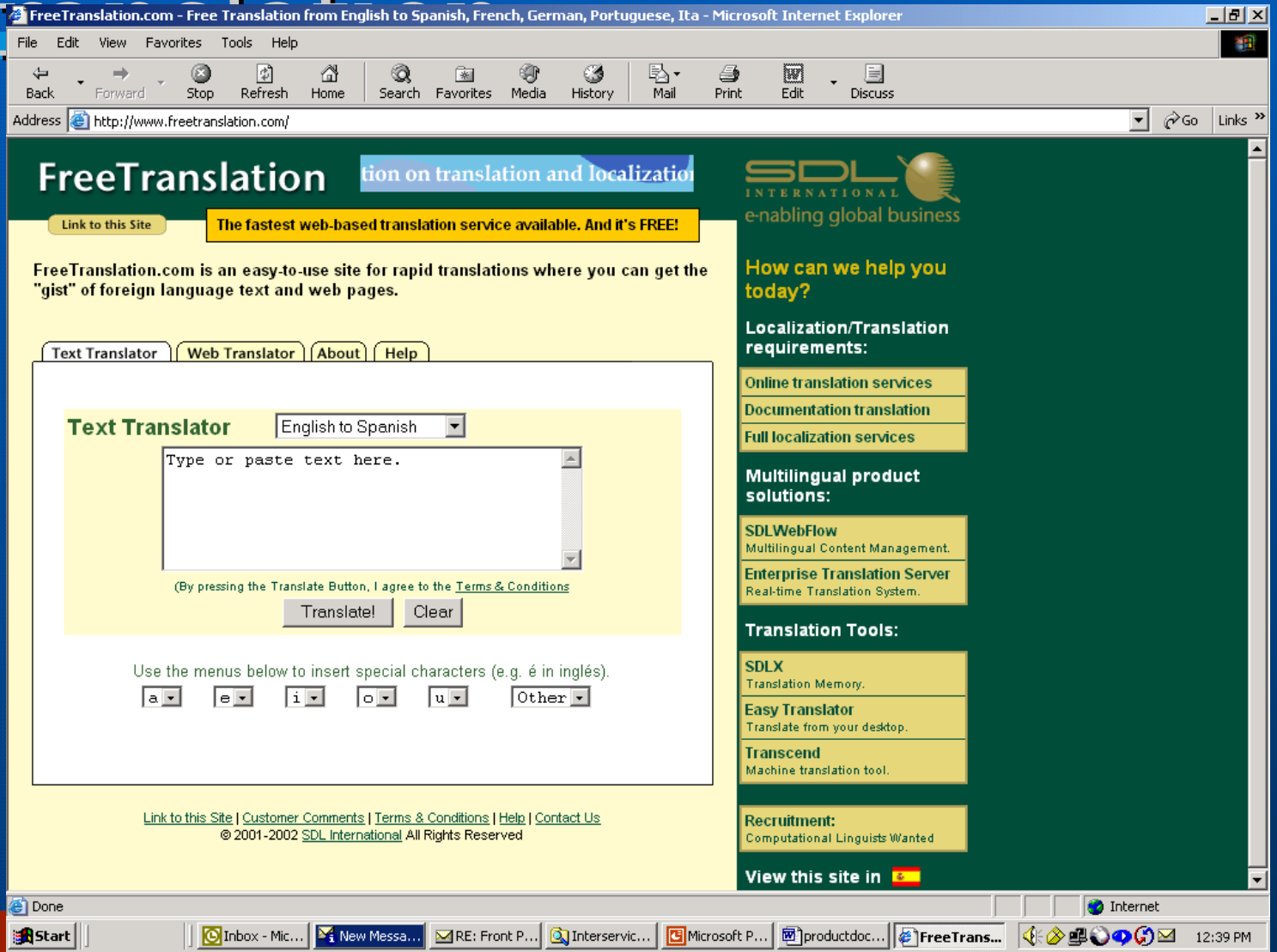
Language Conversion

- **Availability**
  - **Online translation services:**
    - **SDL International**
      - **http://www.sdlintl.com/**

More Language Translation…

Product	Source Info	Cost	Glossy Info
Freetranslation	http://freetranslation.com/	Online/ Free	
Babylon Pro	http://www.babylon.com/	$17.95 year lease	http://www.babylon.com/products.html

More Language Translations



Library

The Library *of* Congress

www.libraries–online.com

Library

- **Library of Congress, Libraries Online**
  - **Books**
  - **Magazines**
  - **Research papers**
  - **Foreign studies**
  - **History**

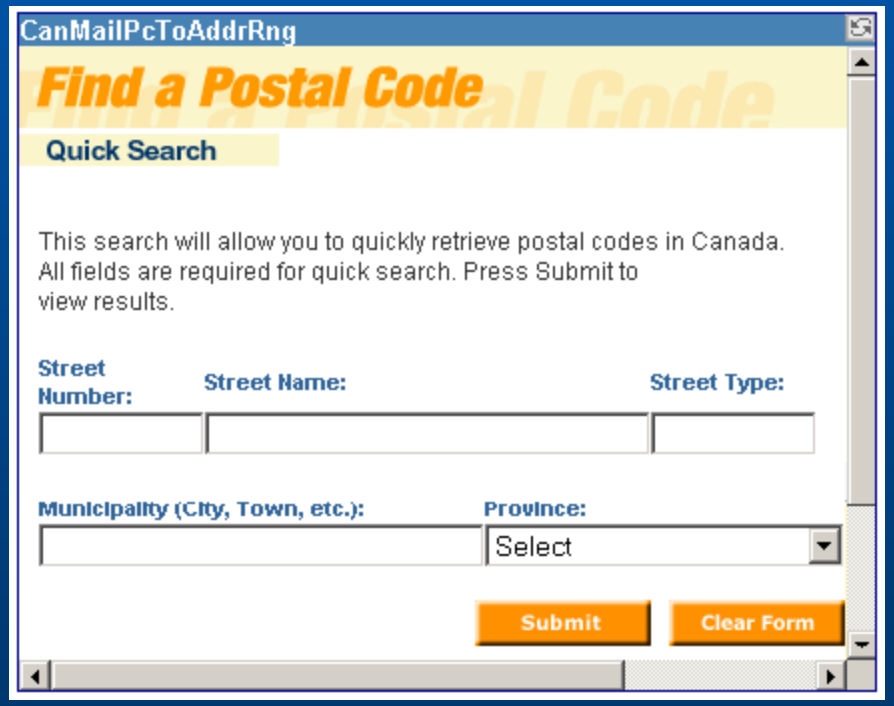
Library

- **Availability**
  - **http://www.loc.gov/**
  - **http://www.libraries-online.com/**

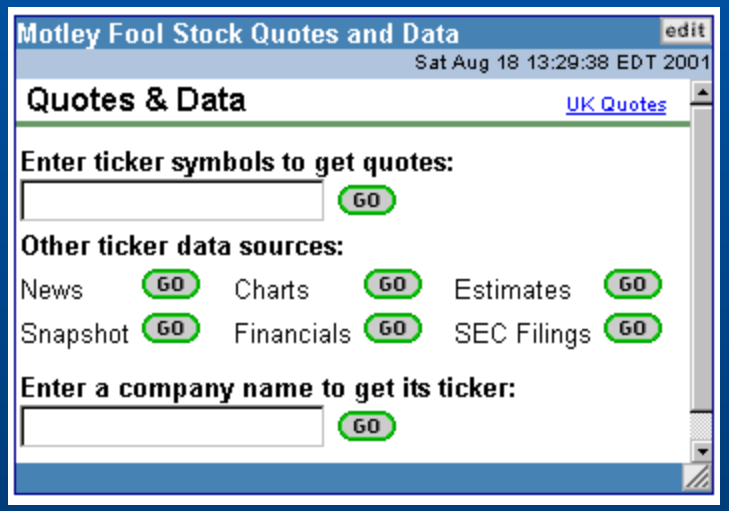
More Library…

Product	Source Info	Glossy Info
Questia	http://www.questia.com	http://www.questia.com/Index.jsp?skip=1&CRID=nullCRnull&OFFID=sddm4adkf234235

Postal Code


CanMailPcToAddrRng
Find a Postal Code
Quick Search
This search will allow you to quickly retrieve postal codes in Canada. All fields are required for quick search. Press Submit to view results.
Street Number:
Street Name:
Street Type:
Municipality (City, Town, etc.):
Province:
Select
Submit
Clear Form

Stocks


Motley Fool Stock Quotes and Data
edit
Sat Aug 18 13:29:38 EDT 2001
Quotes & Data
UK Quotes
Enter ticker symbols to get quotes:
GO
Other ticker data sources:
News GO
Charts GO
Estimates GO
Snapshot GO
Financials GO
SEC Filings GO
Enter a company name to get its ticker:
GO

That’s all…